

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) A cup comprising:

a cup portion;

a lid sealingly engaged with said cup portion, said lid having a spout protruding therefrom and an opening formed in said spout;

a detachable member inserted in said spout, said detachable member having a plurality of ridges formed thereon, said ridges being formed in a continuous helical pattern, said plurality of ridges being sized to sealingly contact an inner surface of said spout thereby forming a helical passage between said spout and said detachable member, said passage having a first end in communication with an interior of said cup portion, and a second end in communication with said opening of said spout, wherein:

said cup portion has an amount of liquid therein, said cup portion further has an amount of air defined by a volume of air that remains in said cup portion when said cup portion is inverted, and wherein said passage is sized to have a volume that exceeds the product of the volume of air in the cup portion and a height of the liquid in the cup portion and lid measured by a linear distance between the opening of the spout and a surface of the liquid when the cup is

inverted, and wherein said volume of said passage is also large enough to then additionally absorb the effect of downward shaking of the cup.

15. (Previously Presented) A cup, as claimed in Claim 14, wherein:

said detachable member is in the form of a plug.

16. (Currently Amended) A cup, as claimed in Claim 14, wherein:

said detachable member is made from a resiliently compressible material ~~such as an elastomer~~.

17. (Previously Presented) A cup, as claimed in Claim 14, wherein:

said spout of said lid is located eccentrically thereon so as to be convenient for drinking from.

18. (Previously Presented) A cup, as claimed in Claim 14, wherein:

said spout is in the shape of a truncated cone, and said detachable member has a shape matching an inside cavity of said spout.

19. (Previously Presented) A cup, as claimed in Claim 14, wherein:

a diameter of said passage is such that air is prevented from entering past liquid in said cup and wherein said diameter has a maximum size of approximately 3mm.

*Application No. 10/049,701*

20-24. (Canceled)

25. (New) A cup, as claimed in claim 16, wherein said resiliently compressible material is an elastomer.